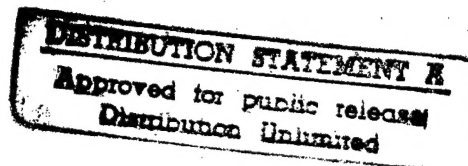


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19 October 1983

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

No. 1355

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CLASHES WITH KARENS REPORTED

Clash With Repatriated Mons

BK050718 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 5 Sep 83 p 1

[Text] More than 20 people were killed and many others injured in a clash between ethnic Mons and Karen rebels at the Thai-Burmese border near Prachuap Khirikhan Province last week, according to a report reaching Bangkok yesterday.

Prachuap Khirikhan Governor Capt Chamlong Prasoetying RTN said about 200 forces of Karen rebels and Burmese communist guerrillas attacked a base of ethnic Mons, under the leadership of Maj Pakoman, on Tanaosi mountain last Monday and both sides engaged in a clash after which 21 people--nine of them ethnic Mons and 12 others Karen rebels and communist guerrillas--were killed.

The governor said the ethnic Mons were recently removed from a controversial settlement in Thung Kang Yang of Kanchanaburi at the order of the government.

Four minority people under Maj Pakoman were injured and 18 others were arrested by Thai rangers on charges of illegally crossing the border into Thailand, he reported.

The governor said the Karen rebel side also suffered heavy casualties in the fighting at the border near Bang Saphan District.

Capt Chamlong said the attack was believed to be an attempt to weaken the strength of ethnic Mons at the border.

According to an official report, the 18 arrested ethnic Mons were detained at Hat Wanakon ranger camp in Thap Sakae District.

The authorities also seized a number of arms and ammunition from the, the report said.

Offensive Against Karens

BK290118 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Sep 83 p 1

[Text] Maesot, Tak--Several Burmese and Karen soldiers were killed and wounded in the renewed Rangoon offensive against the armed minority band which started on 21 September.

Border Patrol Police sources said the fighting was expected to continue for some time as both sides were reported to have brought reinforcements to the battle scene near the Karen stronghold at Ban Wang Kaeo, under the control of Gen Bo Mya.

The sources said 12 Burmese soldiers had been killed and 84 wounded since the clash started. The Karens were said to have suffered three dead and five wounded. Four Karen soldiers are also believed captured.

The heavy casualties occurred between 21 and 23 September when about 1,000 Burmese soldiers of the Sixth, Seventh and Tenth Battalions of the 44th Division attacked three villages about 10 kilometres from the Thai border.

The Burmese forces are believed to be under the leadership of Col Jun A [name as published] of the 44th Division.

Sources said about 400 to 500 men under Karen National Union leader Bo Mya were defending the villages of Ban Tong Soun, Ban Tong Yoy and Ban Takak Pho.

They are believed to be under the leadership of Maj Mutu and are using guerilla tactics against the Burmese forces.

Sources added that the rebels were able to seize about five weapons from the Burmese.

Burmese reinforcements are believed to be on their way to the three villages and heavy fighting is expected.

Weapons To Be Used

BK020709 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Tak--Burmese troops have airlifted 105-mm artillery pieces by helicopter to their advance base in Nawtaya, informed Border Patrol Police sources said yesterday.

The sources said the arrival of the cannons--the first this year--posed a serious threat to the Karen rebels in Maw Pokay, about 30 kilometres from Nawtaya.

The sources said Mawtaya was to be used as a permanent base for the Burmese troops and that an airfield was under construction.

In other developments, it was reported that the district officer of the Tha Song Yang District, opposite Maw Pokay, Ronnapop Chuaisiri, yesterday banned Ban Mae Tan villagers from fishing in the Moei River--the natural borderline between Thailand and Burma.

The ban reportedly was a precautionary measure to protect villagers from stray shells or gunfire from skirmishes between Karens and Burmese Government forces.

Meanwhile, Burmese officials in Myawaddy yesterday told Thai Customs officials in Mae Sot District that they were holding three Thais for allegedly crossing into Burma.

The men reportedly carried guns and were charged with illegal entry and suspicious conduct.

On Friday, Thai military sources reported that Burmese troops killed 17 Karens and wounded 25 others in fierce fighting near Maw Pokay. Burmese casualties were unknown.

Burma-Karen Activities Near Border

BK040325 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 Oct 83 p 2

[Text] Mae Sot, Tak--Fresh troops have moved into replace the infantry battalion of the Burmese 44th Division Headquarters 15 kilometres west of here, Border Patrol Police [BPP] sources said yesterday.

The arrival last Thursday of the new battalion, equipped with a large arsenal of heavy weapons, sparked fears that fighting between Burmese troops and Karen rebels could break out any time, the sources said.

The sources said that as the fresh Fourth Infantry Battalion moved into position on Thursday, the Eighth Infantry Battalion gradually withdrew from their stronghold at Ban Pangkan, controlled by the Burmese 44th Division.

The replacement forces came in aboard a convoy of trucks from Kawkareik, further west of Ban Pangkan. The new battalion is equipped with a large number of recoilless rifles and mortars, the sources said.

At the same time, about 1,000 Burmese reinforcement troops were sent to strengthen their forward base at Nawtaya, west of the Karen stronghold at Maw Pokay--about 85 kilometres north of Mae Sot Town, sources said.

The sources said Burmese forces were expected to send more 75mm recoilless rifles to support their troops in an impending attack on Maw Pokay and Kaw Mooh Rah (Wang Kha) 26 kilometres north of Mae Sot.

Meanwhile, Karen rebel forces were reported on full alert and renewed sporadic fighting was reported yesterday.

Access to Kaw Moo Rah, the trade route which has been the lifeline of the Karen rebels, was blocked by the Burmese three days ago and Thai villagers living along the border were prohibited from crossing the Mei River into Burma.

Heavy fighting between the Burmese and the Karen rebels broke out Saturday afternoon and continued into Sunday in the vicinity of Ban Pakali in Pa-an District, about 50 kilometres of Kaw Mooh Rah. One Burmese officer and three soldiers were killed in the incident.

Rebel casualties were not known.

The Karen rebel forces concentrating at Maw Pokay are under the command of Maj Pahko, backed by the 19th, 20th, 21st and 22nd battalions from the Seventh Division.

Karen Col Torlah took command of the 101st Special Battalion and some units of the 19th Battalion. The BBP sources said another 300 Karen troops are under Majors Mutu and Saw Taw holding out in an area known as Pha Lu.

CSO: 4200/64

SHAN STATE MEETING DISCUSSES DRIVE AGAINST BCP

BK010925 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Summary] A quarterly coordination meeting of the Shan State Regional Party Committee and representatives of party organizations from 52 townships in Shan State was held in Taunggyi on 21 and 22 September. The meeting was attended by the chairman of the Shan State Regional Party Committee and commander of the Eastern Military Command, Brigadier General Aye San, the chairman of the Shan State People's Council, U Tun Yin Law, and township functionaries and party representatives.

"The chairman of the Shan State Regional Party Committee, who presided over the meeting, reported on the situation and success of the operation against the destructive insurgents, including the Burma Communist Party [BCP] insurgents, being launched by the working people under the leadership of the party, the People's Council and the army in areas under the jurisdiction of the Shan State Regional Party Committee. He also spoke extensively on the current plight of the insurgents and their disintegration and the future tasks to be undertaken, with the strength of the people, by our party, the People's Council and the army."

Chairmen of township party units and representatives of township party organizational committees then reported on political, organizational and general matters in their respective areas. The secretary and officers of the Shan State Regional Party Committee replied to the points raised by the party representatives at the meeting.

"Next, Lieutenant Colonel (Aung Hlaing), a tactical commander of the Eastern Military Command, explained in detail how 120 out of 140 Lahu insurgents were crushed unitedly by the people's militias and the indigenous working people under the leadership of the party, People's Council and the army. The pro-BCP Lahu insurgents led by (Nanu) came to (Mong Pukin) and (Mong Pu Aung Kwin) in Mong Ping Township.

"Brig Gen Aye San, the chairman of the Shan State Regional Party Committee and commander of the Eastern Military Command Headquarters, presented certificates of merit to chairmen of township party units concerned. The certificates were given in recognition of the services rendered in crushing the insurgents by the party, People's Councils, the army, people's militias, anti-insurgent

groups and indigenous working people of Mong Ping, Namsan, (Loi-lem), (?Kwanhio), Keng Tung, Mong Hsat and Mong Nai townships."

Next, the representatives of party organizations from the 52 townships discussed the economic, social and public management affairs in their respective townships. The coordination meeting ended successfully on 22 September after executive committee members of the Shan State People's Council answered points raised by the representatives and the presiding chairman delivered a closing address.

CSO: 4211/2

VIENTIANE CHAIRMAN ASSESSES SECURITY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 23 Aug 83 p 2

[Interview given to VIENTIANE MAI by Mr Phao Phimphachan, chairman of the Vientiane Capital administrative committee, on the 8th anniversary of the 23 August Power Seizure]

[Excerpts] [Question] As we all know 23 August is the historical day when the people of all ethnic groups in Vientiane Province and Vientiane Capital rose up to seize the administrative power of the party [from the] capitalists, feudalists and reactionaries who were the machinery serving the aggression and exploitation of the imperialists and neocolonialists, and established the people's revolutionary administration. On 23 August 1983 it will be 8 full years. What are your feelings and opinions concerning the protection and construction of Vientiane Capital?

[Answer] This year it will be 8 full years with the correct policy of the party that the people of all ethnic groups throughout Vientiane Capital have worked to protect the revolutionary fruition, to construct a new economy and culture, and to unendingly raise the standard of living of the people. In this short period of time, although the enemies were defeated and driven away they still have not given up their scheming to destroy the path of our people. They still do not stop their dark determination, and seek in every way to destroy our revolutionary fruition. They hope to suppress and kill us while we are still in the newborn [stage].

However, because we have the absolutely correct policy of the party, and a heritage of an absolute struggle against the enemies with the love for freedom, democracy and independence of our people, we all together protect the revolutionary fruition, construct a new economy and culture step by step, and proceed on the path of socialism which is our ultimate goal.

The people in Vientiane Capital have always been highly alert and have destroyed all the enemies' tricks in Vientiane Capital. In politics, military affairs, economics, socioculture and psychology we were able to get rid of and destroy the enemies plan in a timely fashion, and to firmly maintain peace and security in society and our territorial integrity. The national defense and security forces of our people are steadily strong and firm. There is absolutely no enemy who can reverse historical principle.

In terms of the economy, prior to the power seizure Vientiane Capital depended mainly upon imported food such as rice, vegetables, and meat which is the primary food of our Lao people. For this reason the construction of the economy and the improvement of the standard of living is a big and a most difficult problem for the revolutionary administrative committee. The enemies, however scheme to block off and destroy it, but because of the leadership of our revolutionary forces the people have struggled through, constructed and expanded the economy and advanced to be self-sufficient, and self-reliant. In the base the cultivation area has been extended by more than a factor of 2 compared with that before liberation. Animal husbandry has quickly expanded and is self-sufficient. Vegetable growing is self-sufficient, and there is even some left over. The expansion of the trade network and trade co-ops has sent indispensable goods to rural areas to respond to the needs of the workers. Many factories were improved and newly built. Production has also progressed to be the foundation of the economic expansion. We all are proud of having changed the face of Vientiane Capital. Previously it was only a market for distributing goods of the capitalists, where necessarily the standard of living clung to that of foreign countries, and it was a city where [people] played, ate and had fun. Now it has striven to be self-reliant and self-sufficient in terms of the food supply. It has become a city of economic base and independence, and they have gradually and steadily become their own owners.

9884

CSO: 4206/112

BRIEFS

LUANG PRABANG SECURITY--Meuang Khai, a canton subordinate to Luang Prabang Province, is located almost 90 km south of Luang Prabang. It has 25 villages, 1,368 families and 8,227 people. There are 2 Lao Soung villages and 9 Lao Theung villages. Fruits, cucumbers and other vegetables flow endlessly to supply the Luang Prabang market. Active young men hold their guns firmly to check the situation. Since 1980 this area has entered peace and has completely wiped out superstitious society, stealing and greed. Everyone has the ideology of collective mastery under the leadership of the party. They know how to protect their land and attentively protect and improve their standard of living step by step. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 1 Sep 83 pp 2, 3]

LUANG PRABANG TRADE--The trade cadres of Luang Prabang Province have been successfully trading with the people within their province. In the first 6-month period this year they sold production tools and consumer products to raise the standard of living of the people by many millions of kip. Along with this task they also purchased forest products totalling over 2,043,380 kip from the people. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 30 Aug 83 pp 1, 3] 9884

VIENTIANE DISTRICT POPULATION, TRADE--Sanasongkham, a district subordinate to Vientiane Province, is rich with forests, rivers, mineral mines, forest and ricefield products and all kinds of food. On the east it adjoins Nasaithong District, on the west Kasi District, on the north Vang Viang District, and on the south Thailand (Chiengkhan District). Sanasongkham nowadays consists of 8 cantons, 58 villages, 3,147 houses, and 3,868 families totalling 19,381 people. These include over 19,600 Lao Loum, 3,327 farmer families, 245 highland cultivation farmer families, and 296 families who engage in both highland and lowland cultivation. According to the report of Comrade Somchin Inthavong, assistant chairman of the district administrative committee, this year the people throughout Sanasongkham District sold forest products and ricefield products with a value totalling 109.388 kip to the district trade store. The district sent down equipment for production, raising the standard of living and distribution and exchange totalling 4,513,812 kip including plowshares, hoes, shovels, axes, spades, knives, etc. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 25 Aug 83 p 2] 9884

PAKSONG POPULATION, COFFEE, HOSPITAL--Paksong District is located in the middle of 3 southern provinces: on the east it adjoins Attapeu Province, on the north Saravane Province, on the west (Ba Chiang) District and on the south Phathoumphon District (Champassak Province). Paksong is a military and economic strategic district for the province. Its altitude is approximately 1,200 meters. Its area is approximately 240,000 hectares. It has 4 cantons, 87 villages, 4,130 families and approximately 25,000 people of which 17,000 are women. Its production labor is 11,696 people. It has 18 ethnic groups. The occupation of a majority of the people is farming, primarily in coffee growing. In the construction of the economy in 1975 Paksong had only 2,500 hectares of coffee cultivated area and produced only 500 tons of coffee produce. Now the cultivation area has increased to 10,581 hectares and yields 2,700 tons of coffee. A family's revenue from coffee beans is over 600 kilograms this year. They are self-sufficient [in terms of] rice. In [terms of] public health, they built 1 hospital containing 100 beds, and there are two canton health stations containing 10 beds. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 23 Aug 83 p 2] 9884

SAVANNAKHET POPULATION, PRODUCTION--Savannakhet Province is located in the central region of the LPDR. It has 21,700 square km of flatland. It has a population of 471,177 people. Savannakhet Province consists of 8 districts, 134 cantons, 1,426 villages and a total of 81,714 hectares of cultivation area. As of 1983 it has over 1,200 hectares of dry-season rice-growing area. In 1983 the people and farmers in [certain] places throughout the province were able to harvest a total of 2,052 tons and 892 kilograms of dry season rice, and the reopened up 661,29 hectares. For the 1983 wet rice growing season, up to the end of July the farmers throughout Savannakhet Province transported 12,694 tons and 857 kg of manure to the ricefields. As for planting, although it does not rain regularly, and it is not convenient in production, they have struggled and have planted over 60 percent of 81,714 hectares. They have sent 115 tons and 500 kg of chemical fertilizers, 987 kg of insecticides, 48 spray cans, over 200 hoes and shovels, and 2,160 liters of fuel oil to different districts. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 22 Aug 83 p 2] 9884

PHONG SALY ROAD WORK (KPL)--In order to make local communications and transportation become a spearhead in the national economic expansion, in the 1st 5-Year Plan of the government, from the last 6 months of 1982 to the first 6 months of 1983 the public works workers of Phong Saly Province all emulated each other to do their specialized tasks and other tasks with diligence. During this period they built almost 9 km of a new road, surveyed 147 km for new roads, repaired 223 km of broken-down roads, successfully repaired a 140-meter bridge across the Nam Bac River, repaired 16 cars of all kinds, and [did] other tasks at the expected level. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 25 Aug 83 p A3] 9884

CSO: 4206/112

GROUP SEEKING ISLAMIC REPUBLIC EXPOSED

BK021001 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 2 Oct 83

[Text] The deputy prime minister, Datuk Musa Hitam, has exposed a group of Malaysians believed to be working toward making the country an Islamic republic. From evidence obtained the group comprised several leaders of an opposition political party, senior government officers, and a number of intellectuals who are academicians in Malaysian universities. The group also includes an ex-army officer, a senior banking officer, and several others from the private sector. Datuk Musa, who is also the minister of home affairs, disclosed this at a Negeri Sembilan Wanita [Women's] and UMNO [United Malays National Organization] youth dinner in Seremban last night. He said the group had sent at least an eight-member delegation to an Islamic republic in west Asia. The expenses were paid by the country concerned. Several members of the group also attended at least three seminars organized by the republic in India, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. Datuk Musa said the government had received information that 30 Malaysians who sympathized with the Islamic republic attended the seminar in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Commenting on the Saudi Government arrest of seven Malaysians, the deputy prime minister said they had been sent home without performing their pilgrimage. The Malaysians were believed to belong to a group trying to change the present system of government. Datuk Musa said the move by the Saudi Arabian Government was timely and appropriate as the Malaysians were trying to take advantage of the pilgrimage season to create disorder in that country. They brought home anti-Saudi documents. They also brought posters and stickers of a leader of a neighboring country of Saudi Arabia. The deputy prime minister said the seven Malaysians were part of the 17 persons who wanted to perform the Haj individually without going through the Pilgrimage Management and Fund Board. Their expenses in Mecca were paid by the Islamic republic neighboring Saudi Arabia.

Datuk Musa Hitam said one of the main issues stressed by the leaders of that Islamic country was that Muslims cannot have a government with a sultanate. They also claimed that Islam does not practice popular franchise to form a government. This went against the monarchy and parliamentary democratic system of government in Malaysia. The deputy prime minister said if this ideology became a reality, it would bring down the sultanate and destroy the institution of his majesty the king.

CSO: 4200/65

MALAYSIA

MUSA HITAM TO DISCUSS TRADE IN BRAZIL MID-OCTOBER

BK030945 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] Datuk Musa Hitam, together with at least 20 businessmen, will explore potential markets for Malaysian goods during his visit to Brazil in the middle of this month. The deputy prime minister says the delegation will identify areas to improve trade relations, particularly through countertrade with Brazil. At present it is felt the market for Malaysian goods is not fully exploited in Brazil. Datuk Musa says the delegation will also look into the possibility of importing halal [slaughtered under Muslim law] Brazilian meat.

The deputy prime minister will hold talks with the Brazilian president and other senior ministers on issues of economic cooperation and international policies. While in Rio de Janeiro and the business center of Sao Paulo, the Malaysian delegation will hold discussions with Brazilian businessmen on matters of trade.

CSO: 4200/65

QUICKER ACCESS TO SUPPORT FUNDS SOUGHT

HK050136 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 3 Oct 83 p 8

[Article by reporter Rigoberto D. Tiglao: "RP Government Wants Stepped Up Releases From American Economic Support Fund"]

[Text] The government wants to speed up availments of the remaining balance of the economic support fund under the 1979 U.S. military bases agreement.

Although the move may be due to the fact that the 1979 agreement officially expires September next year; with around \$100 million of the \$200 million fund still undisbursed, BUSINESS DAY sources claimed that the government wants to avail of the fund, which it considers rent, to beef up the country's foreign exchange earnings. An unimproved balance-of-payments situation is expected for the year.

A source of the international financial community close to the International Monetary Fund hinted last month the government expects the payments deficit this year to be within its \$800-million target because of expectations of an "unusual" source of foreign exchange earnings which he refused to divulge then.

The BUSINESS DAY sources, however, disclosed that the staff of the Ministry of Human Settlements, which officially handles the fund upon release by the U.S. Agency for International Development [AID], had been directed to accelerate the formulation of project feasibility studies and reschedule for this year projects intended for implementation in 1984.

Under the 1979 U.S. military bases agreement, part of the \$500-million aid or rent given to the Philippine Government would be \$200 million in "economic support fund," intended mainly for infrastructure and livelihood projects in areas adjacent to the military bases.

Records of the Budget Ministry indicate that receipt of the funds started in 1981 with p [peso] 217.5 million. The latest budget program indicated that fund availments amounted to only p 11.964 million in 1982 with p400 million and p500 million scheduled for availment in 1983 and 1984.

Disbursement of the economic support fund had been one of the thorny issues in the past RP-U.S. military bases talks with President Marcos himself telling

newsmen the funds should be handed over to the Philippine Government and handled as funds under its complete disposal.

He said the U.S. AID "is trying to control the fund as if it was U.S. AID funds." BUSINESS DAY learned that the present mechanism is for the Ministry of Human Settlements to submit first the project proposals to the AID before the funds marked for these projects are released.

What gives credence to the report reaching BUSINESS DAY is that because of a combination of political and economic factors, the balance of payments [BOP] remains one of the most intractable economic problems facing the government now.

BUSINESS DAY calculations (See 28 September) indicate that the payments deficit as of August had reached \$824 million, exceeding the maximum \$800-million ceiling of the Central Bank [CB] for the entire year. While the CB is still only starting to calculate the payments deficit for the first three quarters of the year, a source said the CB technical staff is working on an assumption that the BOP for the first three quarters will be in the range of \$900 million.

BSUINESS DAY sources also had disclosed earlier that foreign financial institutions may have slowed down loan exposures to the country because of the recent political and economic developments, a move that would considerably worsen the problem of financing the payments deficit for the year.

President Marcos in a nationwide television and radio broadcast the other day, also noted that the confidence of the international financial institutions on the country's economic stability must be maintained since this is a vital factor with the country's growing payments deficit.

CSO: 4200/62

FORMER INDUSTRY MINISTER RESIGNS FROM KBL

HK041350 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 3 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Vicente Paterno, assemblyman and former minister of industry, resigned from the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan Party (KBL) Friday night during an opposition-sponsored rally held at La Salle in Greenhills.

Paterno was guest speaker together with former Senator Jose W. Diokno, Dr Mita Pardo de Tavera and Butz Aquino in what the Justice for Aquino, Justice for All Movement (JAJA) called "Truth Forum."

It started when someone from the audience asked him, during the open forum, to show courage and resign from the KBL, the ruling party.

Initially, Paterno did not agree. However, the audience did not approve. Paterno then asked the crowd of 500 to vote on the issue. When all hands were raised in favor of his resignation, he immediately announced his resignation.

CSO: 4200/62

PHILIPPINES

OPPOSITION LEADER SALVADOR LAUREL INTERVIEW WITH SWEDISH NEWSPAPER

PM030833 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 28 Sep 83 p 14

[Philippines' opposition leader Salvador H. Laurel interview with Goran Leijonhufvud: "The Revolution Has Begun"]

[Text] Manila, 27 Sep--Salvador H. Laurel, opposition leader in the Philippines, took a coffee cup and said:

"This is President Marcos' dictatorship."

Then he took a large ash tray and put it alongside:

"This is the rebels, the communists' soldiers."

Then he tried to shape his hands into a plough to divide the coffee cup and the ash tray.

"The revolution has begun; our house is in flames; but we represent the third road between dictatorship and revolution, the peaceful road," Laurel said in an interview with DAGENS NYHETER on Tuesday [27 September].

Salvador Laurel could become the Philippines' next president, if President Marcos retires, if Mrs Marcos keeps her promise to leave politics, and if the army does not take over.

Laurel is the leader of Unido (United Nationalist Democratic Organization)--a fairly loose coalition of parties and groups.

But what does the near future look like?

"We intend to hold large masses and prayer meetings," Laurel revealed. "No one can take our freedom of religion from us."

The Philippines is an 85-percent Catholic country. Many priests and church leaders have shown active dislike of Marcos' rule.

"We intend to go on with passive resistance and civil disobedience."

Unido has called for a boycott of the newspapers which are closest to the Marcos family. Laurel claimed that the action has begun to bite and that print-runs have been reduced by 40 percent. Piles of unsold copies of these newspapers lie on the sidewalks around newspaper sellers.

"The next step could be that businessmen will not pay their company taxes, or rather that they will delay payment for a month. That would be enough to upset state finances."

Laurel made much of the role of businessmen.

"For the first time in Philippines' history they have adopted a political stance."

He was referring to the demonstrations against Marcos in the financial district of Makati last week. Many company bosses took part and allowed their employees to take part.

"Being shrewd businessmen, they realized the risk they were taking. And quite rightly, since Marcos has threatened reprisals. But the businessmen have simply had enough. Business was too bad."

In Laurel's view the murder of Benigno Aquino, the opposition's uniting figurehead before Laurel, was the last straw.

He himself has his headquarters in the Makati financial district. His large, impersonal office is in the bank which his father founded. The family still has an interest in the bank.

Laurel and Unido call on Marcos to resign. They do so in the hope that this will end developments which merely provide scope for extremist forces.

If Marcos resigns of his own accord--and there is nothing to indicate that he will, apart from his fragile health--one of three things could happen, Laurel said:

1. The executive committee takes over. Marcos himself created this committee to remove some of the burden from his own shoulders, although he really does not seem able to delegate anything to it.
2. The military takes over.
3. A caretaker government is allowed to begin the work of dismantling the dictatorship and preparing free elections, to announce a general amnesty for political prisoners, and to work out a new constitution.

It is this latter alternative which Unido advocates. The opposition also wants a new and more impartial commission to investigate the murder of Aquino.

"We do not intend to encourage the witnesses who point to the army to step forward now. Their safety cannot be guaranteed."

Laurel said that Unido has not yet decided whether to boycott the May 1984 parliamentary election.

Even the communist party should be legalized, Laurel said.

"There must be no unthinkable thoughts. But I do not think that there is anywhere for the communists to grow in this Catholic country."

Laurel believes that the communists and their armed branch, the New People's Army (NPA), are strong today and that they are also to be found close to Manila.

That is why Marcos has assembled large forces around the capital at enormous expense, according to Laurel.

The murdered Aquino said that the NAP had a timetable of 4-5 years for the takeover of power.

"After recent events I think that the NPA is counting on only 2-3 years. That is how long we have. That is what I also tell the Americans.

"Reagan will only lend legitimacy to Marcos' oppression if he comes here in November. The Americans argue, I believe, that even if Marcos is a dictator, he is at least our dictator."

Marcos has hinted that he could reassess the U.S. military bases on the Philippines if Reagan does not come.

"If he comes, he will not receive a warm reception from the people. He will be given a hot reception," opposition leader Laurel said.

Laurel himself would leave the question of the bases open.

On the whole he is fairly vague when it comes to his political platform.

"First, we must dismantle the dictatorship," he said.

But he thinks that Unido is "a little left of center."

"We stand for a more equal distribution of income. The gaps have widened under Marcos."

It is not difficult to find people of different camps in Manila who doubt Laurel's social feeling.

"He could become as corrupt as Marcos, if not worse. He belongs to one of the rich families who sent their children to the United States. He has only surfaced because Ninoy (Aquino) was shot," it is said.

Others take the view that it does Laurel credit that he is at least not involved in Marcos' regime, although the ties in Manila's small circle of politicians are strong.

"I have known Marcos since I was four. Actually it is possible that I have escaped prison because my father saved him three times.

"Marcos was sentenced to death for a political murder before the war. My father, who was chairman of the Supreme Court, quashed the death sentence, and during the war he saved Marcos from the Japanese twice. Then my father was the country's president.

"You could also say that it was my father who paved the way for Marcos' dictatorship. For when he wrote the constitution he was unable to imagine that someone like Marcos would introduce a state of emergency without thinking twice about the parliament."

The radio played American jazz music the whole time during our 2-hour interview.

"I am bugged. That is why I always have the radio on."

In this way Marcos is also present. But Laurel has no intention of saving him like his father.

"Marcos must get down from the tiger's back. Otherwise he will be thrown off."

CSO: 4200/62

PAPER WARNS AGAINST COMMUNIST TAKEOVER

HK050128 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 3 Oct 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Our Liberties Are at Stake"]

[Text] The take-over of a government by the communists has always hinged on the existing conditions in the country and on the thinking of the people, not to mention their literacy.

One other thing which the communists have always utilized to the maximum is the search for martyr-type heroes around whom they could rally the support of a disillusioned people and all sectors of society in their subtle drive to gain credence and eventually force the overthrow of the government.

Their attempts to topple highly industrialized Western European countries failed after World War II. They failed in Greece in the late 1940's, they failed in France, they failed in Great Britain, and lately they failed in Portugal, Spain and Italy.

The reason: not only are the peoples of Western Europe fully aware of the dangers posed by communism to their liberties and rights but also the people of Western Europe are more literate, cherish their freedoms more and use these freedoms to elect those they want to serve them.

This has not always been the case in developing countries like those in Central and South America, in Africa and in Asia, including Southeast Asia. In these Third World countries, governments and the people are continually beset by major economic problems, severe inflation, low incomes, exploding populations, unemployment, high cost of goods, hunger and illiteracy. Added to this is largescale graft and corruption in government circles.

To the communists these conditions serve as a basis for the easy conversion of thousands into disciplined, hardcore followers, many of whom do not even know they are being led to the slaughter like sheep. So-called "people's liberation armies" spring up overnight, led by communist theorists and dyed-in-the-wool leaders all using the marching feet of the disillusioned, the angry, the hungry, the unjustly treated, the unemployed, even the bandits and members of the underworld.

So is born a "people's revolution" whose primary aim is the overthrow of what is claimed to be a ruthless, unjust and heartless government run by "imperialists" and "American lackeys."

It is the same story told all over and over again wherever the communists have ultimately taken over after demolishing "united fronts" to which they were originally attached. It happened in many African nations, it happened in Nicaragua, it could be happening now in El Salvador.

In this country, the communists appear to have all the ingredients to serve their purpose. They have the major problems created by international recession, high interest rates and inflation and its effects on business and the people. And they have in the gunslaying of Senator Benigno S. Aquino Jr., the proto-martyr hero on which they could create dislike for the government.

They only forgot one thing. In a number of countries they "liberated" in the past, they themselves were responsible for the slaying of liberty-loving leaders and then placing the blame for the crime on the government or government leaders. Those who read the "Ugly American," a book on communist machinations in Southeast Asia, learn that the close aide of a liberty-loving leader turns out to be a communist and his assassin.

Was this case not also true in the case of a cardinal-archbishop in Nicaragua, shortly before its takeover by the communists? History will record the indelible record of communist plotting in which any means, no matter how bloody, should be used to gain ascendancy.

The Filipino people should ask questions before they jump to conclusions. If they love their liberties they should be sure they are not playing outright into the hands of the communists. Certainly, if it is justice they want, they won't get it from the communists when and if they ever take over the government.

CSO: 4200/62

COLUMNIST URGES REASON ON BOTH SIDES

HK301504 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 27 Sep 83 p 6

[Article by Mat V. Defensor in the "Rally Point" column: "Confrontation Is Madness"]

[Text] It is not in the character of the Filipino to be violent.

Perhaps perceiving this, Ninoy chose to seek national reconciliation and peace, rather than confrontation. Those who claim to adhere to his ideals and revere his memory must remember the true meaning of his sacrifice: peace and unity, freedom and justice for all Filipinos without violence.

Indeed, the present posture of belligerence, either of the government or of those outside of it, is not in accord with the true Filipino spirit. For this positioning presages confrontation which can only lead to bloodshed.

Parties sincerely desiring national reconciliation must make a serious effort to attain it. Taking fixed positions is not the way to do it. No dialog is possible where the parties are not prepared to listen to, much less accept, views other than theirs. No man or group of men has a monopoly on truth.

Mr Marcos has said he will not step down because, as he put it, "I have a covenant with the people." This is a fixed position, no matter how one looks at it.

The opposition, on the other hand, demands that the president resign. The intensity of its determination to push through its demand leaves no doubt about the firmness of its position. In fact, the opposition unequivocally says that reconciliation is possible only with the resignation of Mr Marcos.

What we have now is two opposites on a direct collision course: an unstoppable force meeting an unmovable force.

The bloodbath in Mendiola on the terror-filled night of 21 September, last, foreshadowed the horror and the violence--indeed, the lunacy--of confrontation. The warning is written in blood: the path of violence will bring no victors, only victims. Ninoy himself foresaw this and counseled against it.

Is force really necessary to attain national good?

Must the government, no matter how provoked, use force and thereby allow itself to fall into the trap of those who wish to see it inflict violence?

Must the opposition use arms to achieve its ends? Cannot peace and unity, freedom and justice be attained without bloodshed?

Is national reconciliation not possible without annihilation?

Have we reached a point in our history when we, as a people, must maim or kill one another to establish "a regime of justice, liberty and peace?"

If the national good is all that everybody really desires, why can we not achieve it without shedding blood?

These questions assail the mind as we observe the attitude and actuations of those who pretend to be our leaders. The disturbing feeling is that national reconciliation is not really the goal; it is only a slogan being mouthed by some to hide an inordinate ambition for power.

This explains the lack of compunction to sacrifice innocent lives, the readiness to pull the deadly trigger. Never mind if Mendiola be filled with blood. Power must be attained, or maintained, for this alone matters.

But, alas, power alone does not matter. History is replete with the names of those who plunged headlong in a mad drive for power and who, after possessing it, were possessed by it and who met destruction. Napoleon, Hitler, Mussolini, Franco--the gallery is long, and pitifully sad. For the talent and genius of such men would have been of better use to the world if the motive force had been the good of mankind and now power for its own sake.

It is madness to pursue the path of confrontation, unless power is the real aim. But even so, the folly of such a course will be revealed in the end. For power has a way of corrupting the possessor of it.

If the call for national reconciliation springs from honest intentions, the parties in contention must temper their actions with reason and understanding. Tolerance must take the place of intransigence. The difficult struggle for justice, freedom and democracy must be imbued with a high sense of patriotism from all sides.

Is this wishful thinking?

Maybe. At the same time, present realities point to moderation as the only road to national unity. Confrontation will lead to national ruin.

CSO: 4200/62

PRESIDENT TRIES TO LURE FOREIGN INVESTMENT

OW301025 Hong Kong AFP in English 0838 GMT 30 Sep 83

[By Gerry Aziakou]

[Text] Manila, 30 Sep (AFP)--President Ferdinand Marcos' twin offensive against his political opponents and "economic saboteurs" appears to be an attempt to convince the United States and foreign investors that he is not losing his grip on his restive nation, observers said here today. (?Having) so far survived one of the most serious opposition challenges to his 18-year-old rule in the wake of the 21 August murder of his political archrival Benigno Aquino, President Marcos is now counter-attacking on two fronts, observers added.

Politically, he has served notice to the opposition, which has blamed him for the Aquino slaying and triggered unrelenting anti-government protests, that his patience is running out.

His message seems clear: He will not resign as demanded by the opposition, will crack down on dissent and press ahead with the official probe of the Aquino slaying despite opposition charges that it is "rigged" and likely to lead to a "whitewash."

On the economic front, the president said he is determined to slash the country's widening balance of payments (BOP) deficit estimated to reach one billion dollars by the end of the year.

To that end, he has ordered a merciless war against "economic sabotage"--thriving foreign exchange trafficking and blackmarketing.

Yesterday authorities said the president had ordered the establishment of a reward system for informers to complement an earlier presidential decree imposing stiffer penalties for these offences.

The move was particularly aimed at what is officially known here as "salt-ing," an apparently common practice in this country by which exporters undervalue their exports in price and quantity and importers overvalue their imports to shift and keep foreign exchange abroad.

The president has also made frequent television appearances in the last few days, apparently to calm fears about his health and to show that he was making key decisions on security and economic affairs.

The immediate aim, some diplomatic observers said, may be to persuade U.S. President Ronald Reagan to keep his pledge to visit the Philippines in November as part of an Asian tour.

U.S. press reports earlier this week indicated that Mr. Reagan may cancel the visit for domestic reasons. But the U.S. Embassy here said that the visit was still on.

A Western diplomatic source said President Marcos needs a Reagan visit to refurbish his image, tarnished at home and abroad by suspicion that his government may have had something to do with the assassination of Mr Aquino at Manila Airport, minutes after he arrived from three years' voluntary exile in the United States.

But the source said that beyond the Reagan visit, Mr Marcos, 66, is swinging into action to show he can retain the confidence of foreign investors.

"This country needs stability. It needs foreign investment and the capacity to export," a U.S. banker said.

Several Western bankers here this week said President Marcos' good health and an orderly succession were essential to help revive the ailing Philippine economy.

President Marcos has also sent Premier Cesar Virata, who is also finance minister, to Washington to negotiate with the International Monetary Fund for loans to his country.

The crisis spawned by the Aquino slaying has not affected current investment in this country, Western bankers said. But they added that potential investors are watching whether President Marcos can put his political and economic house in order.

A successful Reagan visit and IMF loans would be a boon to the Marcos administration and a clear signal to uncommitted investors that the Philippines is stable for them to move in, a banking executive said.

"Marcos has six months to show he can restore stability," the source added.

CSO: 4200/63

MARCOS TAKES 'DRASTIC STEPS' ON DOLLAR RESERVES

HK010020 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] President Marcos took drastic steps yesterday to prevent the depletion of the country's dollar reserves. He ordered the Trade Ministry to strictly monitor the export and import operations, and restricted Filipino travels abroad. He issued the orders during a meeting with Trade Minister Roberto Ongpin. He said the government will crack down on the practice of rich Filipinos going on shopping sprees abroad during the Christmas season.

After the meeting with Ongpin, the president made another address to the nation by radio and television regarding the steps taken to prevent the decline of foreign exchange reserves. He appealed to the people to have a level of common sense to meet both the economic and political crises confronting the government. The president said Trade Minister Ongpin is also going after over-pricing of imports and under-pricing of exports through tampered documents. He said the government will not allow the situation to continue, and will take harsh measures against those who are sabotaging the country's economy.

The president said the communists are behind the efforts to sabotage the country's economic progress.

CSO: 4200/63

PHILIPPINES

PEREZ: OPPOSITION DOES NOT WANT AQUINO CASE SOLVED

HK030015 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 2 Oct 83

[Text] Political Affairs Minister Leonardo Perez said yesterday it is becoming clearer and clearer every day that the political opposition does not want an early solution of the Aquino assassination, because for as long as the case is unsolved, the opposition can exploit it to the maximum for political advantage. Perez also said that the political opposition has been circulating black propaganda materials containing the opposition's own version of the killing, and from all indications, unless their own version is the one that will come out as the findings of the Tolentino Commission, their position is to impugn such findings.

Minister Perez spoke to a group of youth and civic leaders in Manaoag, Pangasinan. He said that the political opposition appears to have prejudged the work of the commission created to investigate the Aquino killing.

CSO: 4200/63

'VULNERABILITY' OF ECONOMY VIEWED

HK050048 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 4 Oct 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Vulnerability"]

[Text] The economy is vulnerable to foreign influences because it is highly dependent on foreign trade and assistance. The degree of dependence on trade, foreign investments, foreign loans, and grants is part of the strategy of growth. It is a strategy adopted by most developing economies.

The vulnerability is illustrated by the present difficulties--a heavy balance-of-payments deficit, which has led to the devaluation of the currency, cut-backs in government spending, tight credit, and a restriction in imports, among other things.

If certain events, such as demonstrations, which foreigners interpret as symptoms of instability, should persist, the economic difficulties will worsen because prospective foreign investors will avoid the Philippines, there will be a drop in tourism income, and overall production will suffer.

It is not the administration alone that will suffer; the nation will be driven to the wall.

There are people who regard public rallies with glee and the feeling cannot be helped because people enjoy the existence of personal freedom. The Constitution assumes that in the life of the nation there will be occasions when public assemblies will be inevitable.

But reason dictates that the good demonstrations represented should be measured against the cumulative effects after a time.

An economy in distress can bear only the slightest disruption if people are not to be driven to hunger.

The telltale signs of a weakened economy are abundant and the probably consequences should always be borne in mind. All will be affected.

At this time we have to face the cold facts about our economy. We cannot escape from them. It should be noted that the assurances of the economic authorities on an improved economic condition assume political stability in the coming months. It is up to us to stabilize or destabilize our national condition.

BRIEFS

TWO GUERRILLAS KILLED--Two NPA [New People's Army] armed city partisans were killed in a recent encounter with Metrocom [Metropolitan Command] intelligence operatives at a vacant lot adjacent to Camp Panopio in Quezon City. Killed in the gunfight were Esteban Aragon, an NPA urban guerrilla unit commander with a 30,000 peso price on his head, and Augustin Tababa, a member of Aragon's guerrilla unit. Recovered from the NPA were two high-powered handguns, several rounds of ammunition, and a sketch of the Panopio compound layout. The two were reportedly on a mission to mark the exact site of Metrocom Chief General Prospero Olivas' office. Olivas is reportedly marked for liquidation by the NPA armed city partisans. [Text] [OW041434 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 4 Oct 83]

PROTECTION FOR EX-NAP MEMBERS--Philippine Army Commander Major General Josephus Ramas today directed army field commanders to give utmost security protection to rebel returnees and New People's Army members who decided to return to the fold of the law. Gen Ramas gave the orders following reports coming from the field that a number of NPA members and supporters who have joined with the government are threatened and marked for liquidation by the NPA. More on this from (Lisa Cruz) of the army's civil relations and information service. [Begin recording] The army chief said eight NPA supporters [words indistinct] in Bukidnon were already slain by the NPA sparrow units, the liquidation squads. He said the reports said that on some of the dead bodies were notes left by the terrorist groups [words indistinct]. Some of the surrenderers confessed that NPA liquidation squads had warned them they would be killed if ever they get out of the organization or inform the military of the group's activities. Ramas called on his commanders to secure the surrenderers and at the same time exert all efforts to crack down on the hard-core terrorists. [end recording] [Text] [HK030452 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 3 Oct 83]

SURVEILLANCE OF IRANIAN STUDENTS--The Education Ministry is seeking police assistance in keeping close watch on the activities of the Iranian students in the country. Reports reaching the ministry indicated yesterday that a group out to take advantage of demonstrations to foment disorder is girding for a massive rally at the Education Ministry. The group, the Iranian Muslim Students in the Philippines, is also set to hold demonstrations at newspaper and broadcast offices, to protest media reports about their activities. In a manifesto issued by the organization during recent rallies, the Iranians received specific instructions on their conduct. [Text] [HK050012 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 4 Oct 83]

COMMENTARY NOTES CLOSE RELATIONS WITH LAOS

BK031722 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Lao 1030 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] Dear listeners: No Southeast Asian nations other than Laos and Thailand have maintained close relations since ancient times. Even though our countries are situated on opposite sides of the Mekong River, no force in the world is capable of destroying our time-honored relationship. Our people, who are living on opposite banks of the river, have always fully realized that they are nothing but blood brothers. Our cultures, traditions, and customs are very similar; our languages almost identical. No two other peoples in the world but Lao and Thai are able to converse with one another in their own languages and understand one another explicitly. The change of the administrative system in Laos from monarchical rule to socialism has never discouraged the Thai people from cherishing our brotherly relations.

Our reconciliation and affection are a thorn in the side of a certain neighboring country which harbors ill intentions toward us and has incessantly tried to incite our peoples to quarrel with one another. Nevertheless, the Lao and Thai people always realize that any suspicion in each other has never benefited them. An old Thai-Lao epic entitled "Sammakhiphet Khamchat Poetry" constitutes an enduring reminder for our peoples that disunity will bring disaster to the parties concerned, like the seven brothers in the epic who are incited to quarrel with one another. Therefore, our peoples will never become victims of certain countries which have developed ill intentions toward us.

Not only the Lao and Thai peoples but the governments of the two countries as well have consistently aspired to maintain good neighborly relations between the two nations. This can be seen from certain developments in 1979 when the governments of the two countries agreed to set up a joint border committee at both the local and national levels. In January 1981, the Thai Government even more clearly defined its policy and stand toward Laos by striving to promote better understanding between officials and peoples of the two sides at the local level. At the governmental level, efforts have been made to promote both official and unofficial talks between the two sides, including convening a meeting of the national-level Thai-Lao cooperation committee. In addition, efforts have also been made to exchange visits by delegations at various levels from each country with a view to developing and strengthening mutual cooperation and assistance.

Certain important visits by delegations from each country are as follows: Phoun Sipaseut, Lao foreign affairs minister, paid an official visit to Thailand from 14 to 15 November 1981; General Sitthi Chirarot, Thai interior minister, paid a visit to Laos on 5 and 6 March 1982 in his capacity as co-chairman of the national-level Thai-Lao cooperation committee; a Thai trade delegation led by Phatchara Itsarasena, director general of the External Trade Department of the Commerce Ministry, paid a visit to Laos from 8 to 11 March 1983 to hold talks with Lao trade officials; and Bunmi Punnisi, commerce minister of Thailand, paid a visit to Laos from 11 to 13 August 1982 to strengthen bilateral trade relations. In addition, unofficial talks were also held between Thailand's National Security Council secretary general and undersecretary of state for foreign affairs, and Lao Deputy Foreign Affairs Ministers Souban Salitthilat and Soulivono Phasitthidet on several occasions.

Lao-Thai relations have been developing consistently, and the brotherly relationship between the Lao and Thai peoples has been so deep-rooted that no one can destroy it.

CSO: 4206/8

VOFA PINS BLAME FOR 'AGGRESSION' ON HANOI

BK050955 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Station Special Report: "Who is the Real Aggressor?"]

[Text] Since late August Vietnam's news agency has been accusing Thailand of violating Kampuchean territory by land, sea and air at an alarming rate. At the same time Hanoi has resorted to all diplomatic means to try and get Thailand to stop revealing the facts about the situation along the Thai-Kampuchean border despite constant violations of Thai territory by Vietnamese troops and a continuation of Vietnam's slanderous campaign against Thailand. Throughout the past 5 years of the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea, the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY has always cited the bogus news agency, SPK, in cooking up clumsy fabrications against Thailand. However, VNA has lately switched to the one-man-show tactics in making false accusations against Thailand, particularly prior to the opening of the UNGA session which will certainly have the Kampuchean problem on its agenda. The behavior of Vietnam indicates its own guilty conscience and resembles the old Thai saying: A cow with a big wound on its back is always scared by any bird flying over it. Vietnam is afraid that its crimes in Kampuchea will be exposed because it has caused a protracted war in that small developing country. Therefore, it employs all kinds of political tricks to put the blame on Thailand in order to divert world attention and muddy the Kampuchean issue. Since Thailand has a common border with Kampuchea, it cannot escape from Vietnam's attempt to drag it into involvement in the Kampuchean conflict. Moreover, Thailand has clearly declared its policy of opposing the use of force by any country in occupying another country. In this regard, Thailand has been cooperating with the other ASEAN members in seeking an end to the fighting in Kampuchea, which now poses a grave threat to regional stability and peace, so that all countries can coexist equally and peacefully with each other without fear of being enslaved or oppressed by other countries. Since these policies run counter to the countries which favor [words indistinct], it is no wonder that Vietnam has to make up stories to discredit Thailand in the eyes of the world people!

For the sake of impartiality and truth, the Voice of Free Asia would like to present the wrap-up report on Vietnamese violations of Thai territory from the middle of August to the end of September to prove who is the real aggressor.

On 18 August 50 Vietnamese troops crossed the border 4 km deep inside Thai territory at Kap Choeng District, Surin Province, to gather information from Thai villagers on the location of Thai military units and the movements of Kampuchean resistance forces. They seized home-made rifles and belongings of villagers who refused to give them any information.

On 20 August eight Vietnamese troops intruded into Thai territory in search of food.

On 22 August two 105-mm shells fired by Vietnamese troops landed 5 km inside Thai territory at Phak Kat Village in Pong Nam Ron District, Chanthaburi Province. Fortunately, nobody was wounded.

On 4 September six armed Vietnamese troops robbed Thai villagers at Sop On Village in Khlong Yai District, Trat Province, and returned to Kampuchea with food and Thai hostages.

On 22 September Vietnamese troops from Pou Bei Daeum stronghold in Poipet District, Battambang Province, fired about 40 artillery shells of 105-mm caliber into Thai territory in the vicinity of Mai Pak Khlong Village in Aranyaprathet District, Prachin Buri Province, damaging two houses and killing a number of cattle.

On 23 September Vietnamese troops fired more 105-mm shells into the same area, damaging 13 more houses.

On 18 September Vietnamese troops on board a former Thai fishing trawler equipped with two machineguns reportedly captured a Thai fishing boat, the "Cho Phanitcharoen," inside Thai territorial waters.

On 19 September Vietnamese troops captured another Thai boat, the "Phethaiphanit," with six crewmen on board. On the same day, they killed the captain of the "Cho Phanitcharoen" and threw his body into the sea. They later towed the boat to Dang Tung in Koh Kong Province. The crewmen, who were later released, disclosed that the Vietnamese harassment occurred because they refused to pay Vietnamese troops for permission to fish in the areas near Kampuchean waters.

CSO: 4207/9

VOFA CASTIGATES SRV ROLE IN KAMPUCHEA

BK021043 Voice of Free Asia in Cambodian 1030 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Unattributed article: "Vietnam's Annexationist Policy Toward Kampuchea"]

[Text] Dear listeners: After the Vietnamese rulers sent 200,000 troops to invade Kampuchea at the end of 1978, doing away with Kampuchea's legal government and installing the puppet Heng Samrin regime in power to control the Kampuchean people without their consent or approval of the Vietnamese authorities' use of forces to invade a neighboring country, Vietnam has come under strong condemnation and denunciation from all sides in the world. This has brought infamy in the eyes of the world's people on the Vietnamese people, who had no say in or knowledge of the actions taken by the Vietnamese rulers at that time. It is firmly believed that a large number of the Vietnamese people has questioned the motive behind the Vietnamese authorities' decision to invade Kampuchea.

For the past 5 years, despite all the Vietnamese authorities' efforts to cover up their neocolonialist nature in the guise of assistance from a friendly country in liberating Kampuchea, their past actions have prevented the Vietnamese rulers from hiding their dark intention of controlling Kampuchea and Laos and becoming the master of Indochina. There have not yet been any signs that they will withdraw their troops from Kampuchea. On the contrary, they have intensified operations to crack down on Kampuchean patriots, imposed drastic measures on the Kampuchean people's living conditions, and made it a point to install in power Kampucheans of Vietnamese origin who pursue the same ideology as Vietnam.

The Vietnamese authorities have relied on the treaty of friendship and cooperation they signed with the puppet Heng Samrin regime as a tool for their expansion against and interference in all levels of Kampuchea's internal affairs--from top to bottom. Throughout the administration, at both the central and regional levels, all ministries and administrative departments, including provinces, districts, communes, and villages are supervised by Vietnamese advisers who, in fact, are the governors controlling the Kampuchean administration, seeing to it that it complies with the policies formulated by Vietnam. The Kampuchean authorities do not have the least voice or right in running their own country. Worse still, not only do the Vietnamese authorities intend to occupy Kampuchea so that they can rule the roost over

Indochina, but they have also carried out a policy to swallow and exterminate the Kampuchean nation as well. For instance, a recent report which has shaken opinion in the world reveals that Vietnam has migrated as many as 500,000-600,000 of its citizens into Kampuchea. The Vietnamese authorities have implemented a policy of intermarriage between Kampucheans and Vietnamese, forcing Vietnamese and Kampucheans into wedlock, obliging Kampucheans to learn the Vietnamese language, and importing some Vietnamese mores and customs into Kampuchea.

Currently, all Kampucheans are aware that not only are the Vietnamese authorities bent on murdering them physically, but they are also sabotaging their souls and national mores and traditions. Moreover, the Vietnamese authorities have authorized Vietnamese nationals to reside in Kampuchea by proceeding with a new social reorganization which consists of grouping Kampucheans into five-family groups each headed by a Vietnamese. Not only does this social reorganization force the Kampucheans to mix with Vietnamese, but it also provides the Vietnamese authorities with eyes and ears for direct monitoring of the Kampucheans' activities, great ability to thoroughly supervise the Kampuchean people's production efforts, and the possibility of preventing the Kampucheans from supplying their produce to the Kampuchean patriots who are struggling against the aggressors.

Furthermore, the Vietnamese authorities have sought by all means to hatch facade maneuvers to cover up their actions, such as the sister provinces maneuver which they claim is for strengthening and developing neighborly cooperation between Vietnamese and Kampuchean provinces. However, if we scrutinize it a little more closely, such a twinning program benefits the Vietnamese authorities who will have the door open to send their citizens to work as advisers or experts to control the Kampuchean people and take Kampuchean resources back to Vietnam.

The two border agreements recently signed by the Vietnamese rulers with the Heng Samrin regime are another means with which the Vietnamese authorities conceal their policy of sending Vietnamese settlers to grab land and steal jobs from the Kampuchean people. Such agreements are conjured up to prevent opposition from the Kampuchean people. It is most obvious that the Kampuchean people's present living conditions are worse than at any other time before. Although they are the masters of the country, the Kampuchean people have been forced to become second-class citizens. Kampucheans see their rights to pursue their livelihood curtailed, particularly their right to catch fish in the Tonle Sap Lake. Kampucheans have been forcibly relocated from fertile land to remote areas to be used as a shield protecting Vietnam from the attacks of Kampuchean patriotic forces. Kampucheans have been mobilized to work in rural regions, build barracks, and transport food and arms for the Vietnamese troops with the clear knowledge that the food and arms they transport are destined for Vietnamese troops to slaughter their own Kampuchean countrymen. This is being bitterly endured by the Kampucheans living under Vietnam's domination. Those who support the Kampuchean patriotic fighters are liable for harsh punishment, even execution. Reports of brutal tortures inflicted on Kampucheans who refuse to submit to the aggressors are cause

for despair throughout the world. Moreover, they have also increasingly wrecked the Vietnamese authorities' reputation.

Although the Kampucheans are suffering seriously, their morale has not been impaired. It is learned that the patriotic forces have taken the upper hand over the Vietnamese aggressors in several regions and more Kampucheans who have become more aware of the true intention of the Vietnamese authorities have mounted uprisings and attacks against the Vietnamese forces and against injustices that they have suffered. Another evidence that can be clearly seen is the Kampuchean people's growing dissatisfaction with the administration; more of them have defected to the side of the patriotic forces of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea. These Kampucheans are the marks of permanent condemnation on the faces of the Vietnamese authorities.

CSO: 4212/4

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VISITING SRV GENERAL DECORATES CUBANS IN HAVANA

OW012120 Hanoi VNA in English 1504 GMT 1 Oct 83

[Text] Hanoi, 1 Oct (VNA)--A token presentation of the Vietnamese Friendship Medal to 26 individuals and certificates of merit to many others for their outstanding contributions to the solidarity movement with Vietnam was held in Havana Thursday, on the 20th founding anniversary of the Cuban Committee of Solidarity with Vietnam.

The ceremony was jointly sponsored by the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples, the Committee for Solidarity with Vietnam and the Vietnamese Embassy, in the presence of the Jesus Montane, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, head of the Party Central Committee's International Department; Rene Rodriguez, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, president of the Institute of Friendship with the Peoples.

On the Vietnamese side were Lieutenant General Dam Quang Trung, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, member of the Council of State, who is on a vacation tour of Cuba and Vietnamese Ambassador Hoang Luong.

In his speech, Ambassador Hoang Luong praised the fraternal friendship between Vietnam and Cuba the seeds of which were sown as early as the last century by the great national hero of Cuba, Jose Marti.

Ambassador Hoang Luong warmly exalted the activities of the Cuban Committee for Solidarity with Vietnam and of the Cuban people in promoting and strengthening the militant solidarity and fraternal friendship between the two peoples.

CSO: 4200/69

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

LAO HIGHER PARTY SCHOOL DELEGATION--Hanoi, 30 Sep (VNA)--A delegation of the higher party school of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party paid a week-long visit to Vietnam ending Thursday at the invitation of the Directorate of the Nguyen Ai Quoc Higher Party School. The delegation was led by Chanmi Douangboutdi, member of the LPRP Central Committee and director of the Lao Higher School. While here, the Lao guests were warmly received by Hoang Tung, secretary of the CPV Central Committee. Present on the occasion were Nguyen Duc Binh, member of the CPV CC and director of the Nguyen Ai Quoc School, and Pan Dinh Vinh, deputy head of the International Department of the CPV CC. Lao Ambassador Khampheun Tounalom was also present at the reception. The Lao delegation had working sessions with the directorate and various faculties of the Nguyen Ai Quoc School. It made a tour of the port city of Haiphong and the Hoa Binh Hydro-electric Power Project. [Text] [OW010350 Hanoi VNA in English 1613 GMT 30 Sep 83]

GREETINGS ON GUINEAN ANNIVERSARY--Hanoi, 1 Oct (VNA)--State Council President Truong Chinh today extended his warm congratulations to President Ahmed Sekou Toure on the 25th anniversary of the proclamation of independence of the Guinean Revolutionary and People's Republic. His congratulatory message said: "Over the past 25 years, under your excellency's leadership, the Guinean people by their hard working and creative labour have obtained great achievements in the defence and building of their prosperous country. The Vietnamese people rejoice over these achievements, and sincerely wish them new and still greater successes, thereby actively contributing to the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and racism in Africa and elsewhere in the world. May the solidary, friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Vietnam and Guinea be further consolidated and developed! Happiness and prosperity to the Guinean people!" [Text] [OW020403 Hanoi VNA in English 1509 GMT 1 Oct 83]

LAOS DECORATES SRV WORKERS--Hanoi, 3 Oct (VNA)--Orders and medals of the Lao People's Democratic Republic were conferred on 31 Vietnamese cultural and artistic workers at a ceremony held here recently in acknowledgment of their meritorious services to Laos in the period from 1975 to 1980. Present at this function were Vietnamese Deputy-Minister of Culture Nong Quoc Chan and Lao Ambassador Khampheun Tounalom, who made the presentation. [Text] [OW031736 Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 3 Oct 83]

SRV WRITER RECEIVES AWARD--Hanoi, 3 Oct (VNA)--Nguyen Dinh Thi, the newly re-elected secretary general of the Vietnam Writers' Association, has won the "Lotus" International Literature Prize. This was announced at the Seventh Congress of Afro-Asian Writers in Tashkent, the USSR, last Saturday. The award was made in recognition of his considerable contributions to literature, peace and social progress, as well as to the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and racism. [Text] [OW031842 Hanoi VNA in English 1504 GMT 3 Oct 83]

CSO: 4200/69

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

PARTY BUILDING IN HAU GIANG TERMED BIG, URGENT TASK

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Sep 83 p 3

[Article by Nguyen Kien Phuoc: "Developing the Party in Hau Giang"]

[Text] The party building task in Hau Giang Province originates from the characteristics and objective situation of the party organization. An obvious fact is that the number of party members is too small; the quality does not as yet ensure the leadership need.

In the two fights against the French colonialists and American imperialists, the conditions for party development were restricted: thousands of cadres and party members sacrificed their lives. After the liberation the number of members of the party organization was less than 10,000. Since 1976 the party-developing task has been carried out but at a slow pace; as a result, there have been not enough party members to assume leadership in all party bases. In Thot Not, O Mon and Long Phu Districts, 80 percent of all hamlets do not have any party members being native people. The division of the larger villages having a medium-size population requires even more cadres and party members.

The absolute majority of party members comes from the ranks of working farmers who have an understanding of the democratic national revolution, are trained in combat but have a poor knowledge of socialism. Their concept of the struggle between the two roads, socialist and capitalist, remains vague in many aspects; their capacities in connection with culture and economic and social management under the conditions of the party being in power have not yet been improved.

The make-up of party membership does not as yet satisfy the need for party leadership in all economic and social fields. The percentage of party members coming from the worker class is too low; the number of young party members being female and members of ethnic minorities is too small. The party members' force is not evenly distributed among different regions and

sectors. More party members work in provincial committees and sectors than in districts, more in districts than in villages and more in villages than in hamlets. Up to two-thirds of party members work in the organizations and units at district and provincial levels and in the central organs stationed in different localities. The propaganda about and dissemination of the party and state positions and policies at the basic level, particularly in the rural party bases, are limited.

In the last 2 years the Hau Giang party organization was paying attention to developing the party and at the same time firmly expelling the unqualified members from the party, thus strengthening the leadership role and fighting power of party organizations.

From 1976 to the end of June 1983, the Hau Giang party organization accepted more than 6,400 new party members, with 80 percent of them being young people. The number of hamlets that had no party members was gradually decreasing: the Long Phu party organization added more than 100 new members to its ranks every year; the Ke Sach party organization, armed force and people's public security force of the province were also the units that had done a good party-developing job.

The newly-admitted party members, with the majority of them being youth union members who had been trained and tested in the local revolutionary movements, have good cultural background; have been trained in basic party knowledge in district, city and municipal party schools; and have good leadership capabilities and the ability to carry out political tasks, to develop their exemplary and pioneering role and to enjoy good prestige among the people.

The party organizations were also paying attention to education, raising the quality of party members and firmly expelling the unqualified people from the party.

The fact that the quality of party members had been improved made the party organization more stable: Hau Giang in the last few years scored a great deal of achievements in the fields of socialist transformation and building, in maintaining security and national defense and in making more and more positive contributions to the revolutionary undertaking of the country as a whole. The party organizations' strength was a decisive factor.

Many party organizations were paying attention to building the youth union and to further training the party's powerful reserve force.

The party-developing task has been too slow to satisfy the needs of the new situation and task. Some districts are underestimating this task as they do not accept any new members, or accept only a few of them each year; 43 party

organizations and chapters in the province have not accepted any new members in 7 years. In 1982, 103 units did not do any party-developing work; in the first 6 months of 1983, 117 units in such economic sectors as agriculture, grain, commerce, export, etc. did not do any work, either.

By now 24.92 percent of Hau Giang's hamlets still have no party members of their own. The revolutionary movement in districts and villages has not been developed steadily, with its potential remaining to be exploited.

The fact that there are few party members and their capabilities are limited has greatly hampered the leadership over fulfillment of the political task.

Many party committee echelons have not yet fully recognized the importance and urgency of giving the party more vitality and satisfying the ever increasing needs of the political task. At the meetings of many basic-level party chapters and organizations little discussion was devoted to the party-developing task. Quite a number of party organizations and members did not fully understand the principle and procedures of admitting new party members; they remained narrow-minded, were afraid of difficulties and got confused about selecting the right ones, particularly in the zones which had been under enemy control and in religious and ethnic-minorities zones. Many party organizations and chapters have not yet realized the relationships between consolidating and building the party on the one hand and developing the party on the other as they sometimes worried about the former while neglecting the latter and sometimes admitted large numbers of people at the same time, even the unqualified ones, into the party.

Many party organizations and chapters have not yet had any projects and plans for developing the party; normally they would accept those people who had emerged as active ones. The need to learn from the experience of the party organizations and chapters which did a good party-developing job has not been properly satisfied. The higher echelons' leadership and control over the basic level have been inconsistent and loose. The examination of the records of potential party members was excessively prolonged and in some cases left pending for a very long time, which slowed down the party-developing task.

The cadres who were in charge of the party-organizing and -building job at the basic level, particularly in the Khmer people's and religious zones, were few and weak. In some localities there was a wrong concept about admitting women as party members.

In many party organizations, the youth union, collectivized farmers' association, women's association and trade unions, which received little attention in terms of being consolidated and built, have not yet played the role of participating in party building, mostly recommending outstanding people for being accepted into the party.

The Hau Giang party organization has clearly understood that strengthening the party-building task in all three -- political, ideological and organizational -- aspects, mostly strengthening the party-developing task, would be an important task to fulfill to ensure leadership over organizing the fulfillment of the political tasks at the basic level: the Provincial VCP Standing Committee has convened a conference among the secretaries of party chapters and organizations in villages and subwards, organs and enterprises for specialized discussions of the party-developing task and building of strong party organizations and chapters, for the purpose of overcoming the above-mentioned shortcomings and turning the party-developing task into a major and urgent job for the entire party organization to do.

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CSO: 4209/1

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

MARKET, PRICES IN HCM CITY STABILIZED DUE TO TAX WORK

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 5 Sep 83 pp 1, 4

[VNA News Release: "Ho Chi Minh City -- Industrial and Commercial Tax-Collecting Work Begins To Help To Stabilize the Market"]

[Text] The industrial and commercial tax-collecting work based on the new regulation in Ho Chi Minh City and reinforced by leadership provided by its party committee echelons and administration has begun to show good effects on state control over individual business activities and to help to strengthen the socialist force on the distribution and circulation front, to assist the management of market and to stabilize prices.

Through the first phase, which involved 1,225 households doing big business in the food and beverage and commercial sectors, the municipality drew some good initial experience in the method of conducting the 5 Managements work -- registration for business, prices, accounts, bookkeeping and taxes -- and at the same time was able to see the business-management shortcomings of the individual households in the past. On the basis of the advance-investigation data and information provided by the masses, the work teams were patiently persuading these households to accept paying taxes based on more realistic turnovers and profit margins. So far 1,141 large commercial and food and beverage households have signed the minutes based on the above-mentioned 5 Managements requirement to accept the levels of turnovers 3-5 times higher than before, and in some cases even more than 10 times higher than the old ones. In the beginning there were many difficulties and confusion in connection with keeping a record of business activities and opening bank accounts, but many households have by now seriously complied with this requirement. So far 190 households have opened bank accounts, with the 1st Precinct having one-fourth of its households, mostly the ones that do business in vegetables and fruits in Cau Muoi and Cau Ong Lanh Markets, having opened bank accounts after signing the "5 Managements" minutes.

Along with collecting the industrial and commercial tax, the municipality has been strengthening market management; checking the posting of prices and selling at posted prices in all large and small markets and stores and booths in the municipality; and discovering and punishing the households that were engaged in speculation, smuggling, illegal production and counterfeiting. During the time the regulation on the industrial and commercial tax was put into effect, the precinct, district and municipal market-management units handled 1,377 cases of market-management violations. The socialist commercial force was further strengthened; the cooperative commerce was expanded, with the purchases of goods being stepped up and retail sales developed as part of the struggle for stabilizing market prices. The municipality has rearranged the 4 essential businesses that supply rice, meats, vegetables and fish in the major markets and has created a rice-selling network consisting of nearly 1,800 dealers and more than 3,000 stores and sales stations of the cooperative commerce to ensure satisfying most of the working people's need in connection with daily meals. As a result, during the entire period in which the industrial and commercial tax regulation was put into effect, there were no adverse changes in the prices of the essential items, such as rice, meats, vegetables, fish, eggs, sugar, beans, etc.; the prices of some goods even decreased and thus contributed to gradually stabilizing the standard of living.

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CSO: 4209/1

AGRICULTURE

MEETING DISCUSSES DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIAL CROPS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Sep 83 pp 1, 4

[VNA News Release: "Development of Production and Processing of Coconut, Sugar Cane and Tobacco in Southern Provinces"]

[Text] The Council of Ministers Standing Committee recently met in Ho Chi Minh City with the people's committee chairmen of the provinces south of Quang Nam-Da Nang and the ministries and central committees and sectors concerned to discuss the ways to develop the production and processing of three industrial crops -- coconut, sugar cane and tobacco.

The conference was held under the chairmanship of Vu Dinh Lieu, member of the VCP Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Vo Van Kiet, member of the VCP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Commission, attended the conference and offered his ideas.

Food Industry Minister Vu Tuan presented the draft plans for total development, production and processing of the three industrial crops.

Since the southern provinces have favorable land and climatic conditions, coconut, sugar and tobacco have become the three traditional industrial crops being included in the crop-growing habits of the majority of their farmers.

About coconut, the southern provinces now have 83,000 hectares and 16.5 million coconut trees, with about 50 percent of them currently being harvested and the annual production of coconut oil possibly reaching 29,400 tons. However, since coconut trees grow by themselves and in a natural manner, without any development plans and intensive cultivation, nor the effects of science and technology, their yield remains low. There still are too few state-operated processing installations. In most cases, the pressing of coconut takes place in joint and private production installations. The oil-processing

industry, which is under central management and has a variety of good but not uniform equipment, does not have the major pieces of equipment necessary to turn oil into raw materials for other industries, which leads to a situation in which oil raw materials are used to make products in a far from rational manner and the products deriving from coconut are not yet combined and fully used to bring about good economic results. The fact that processing of coconut fibers and making of dippers from coconut shell have not yet been properly developed fails to increase the lines of goods for export.

As regards sugar cane, the southern provinces have about 90,000 hectares, but purchasing sugar cane to serve the central sugar refineries has failed to satisfy their needs. In the best year the purchases were able to satisfy only 45.76 percent of the planned output and 65.38 percent of the actual output. In addition to the state-operated sugar refineries, there are more than 3,900 manually-operated sugar-producing kilns and more than 2,000 sugar-crystallizing mortars having the capacity to press over 5 million tons of sugar cane a year and to crystallize about 100,000 tons of sugar a year, with 98 percent of these production installations being owned by private people, developing in a free manner and operating in accordance with the unorganized market mechanism.

As regards tobacco, it is grown in 14,000 hectares in very many localities. Many provinces have concentrated tobacco-growing zones where considerably high yields are obtained. The cigarettes-manufacturing factories have old equipment and lack spare parts, which makes their products fail to reach the required quality.

Generally speaking, after the liberation some provinces were trying very hard to overcome difficulties and to grow for the first time tens of thousands of hectares of the three above-mentioned industrial crops, but in spite of the fact that these are crops of great economic value, their production which satisfied some of the needs in daily life did not significantly affect the processing industry.

The policies concerning the three industrial crops, which for instance did not bring about timely and uniform investment, failed to help farmers to overcome the difficulties in production and daily life; prices were not yet rational while there was no policy that encouraged to an appropriate degree local planting of the three crops; the policy concerning management and transformation of the privately-operated processing installations was not yet properly implemented.

The conference showed unanimity toward a project for developing production and processing of the 3 industrial crops -- coconut, sugar cane and tobacco -- which calls for raising by 1990 the cultivated areas in the southern provinces

of coconut to 663,000 hectares, sugar cane to 292,000 hectares and tobacco to 80,000 hectares, with the motto, "The state and the people work together; the central and local levels work together." Coconut must be planted also in residential land as a local crop, on dike slopes and pathways in the fields, along the coast, on islands and mountain slopes. Study the shifting of the use of rice-growing land where production is unstable or poor in terms of crop yield to planting coconut instead. Apply science and technology to practicing intensive cultivation of coconut.

For sugar cane, create raw materials zones for sugar refineries, as well as for the concentrated processing installations; build the specialized sugar cane-growing zones in conjunction with the centrally-operated sugar refineries, including a 75,000-hectare zone in Tay Ninh which will in the future raise the total sugar cane-growing area to 500,000 hectares.

For tobacco, in order to quickly stabilize the sources of raw materials in terms of both quantity and quality for cigarettes-manufacturing factories now and in the future, concentrate efforts on building the key tobacco-growing zones in Thuan Hai, Dong Nai, Ho Chi Minh City, An Giang and Dong Thap. In these key zones, which have large areas and outputs, good tobacco quality and tobacco-growing traditions, strive to produce by 1990 125,000 tons of tobacco, or 78 percent of the total production of the South, including 96,500 tons of cigarettes of yellow cut tobacco.

On the basis of a developed production, the state has plans for considerable investment in the processing industry, ensures a balance between production and processing in connection with the three above-mentioned industrial crops, strives to create within a short time a source of raw materials for industry and export and contributes to accumulation for the sake of national construction and improvement of the standard of living. The state will have an appropriate policy to ensure for coconut, sugar cane and tobacco farmers development of their production and sales of their products to the state.

Expressing his opinion, Vo Van Kiet stressed the position, role and great significance of the industrial crops in the socialist construction through the entire transitional period. In our country, the possibility of planting various industrial crops is great. Besides the grain crops there are lots of industrial crops that contribute to accumulation and serve the task of socialist industrialization. Grain and food crops in a sense are the basis of industrialization. Next to rubber coconut is the primary one among the industrial crops: it can be planted in scattered areas and requires little investment and not much labor, which does not need to be concentrated and mainly relies on the local sources of experienced labor having mastered the coconut-planting technique.

All localities must immediately set up a specialized-business corporation to properly take care of planning, investment, planting, purchase and processing and to move toward holding a monopoly over the marketing and processing of these three industrial crops. They must attach importance to restoring the traditional coconut-, sugar cane- and tobacco-planting zones and guiding them toward intensive cultivation of such crops; and where conditions are favorable new zones must be created. All provinces must closely keep pace with and get to know every need, as well as the minimal facilities in the life of farmers in the specialized coconut-, sugar cane- and tobacco-growing zones; strive to clarify within a short time the position and role of the three industrial crops in the national economy; and create favorable conditions for farmers to feel reassured as they grow them and sell products to the state.

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CSO: 4209/1

AGRICULTURE

IRRIGATION EXPANDS IN MEKONG RIVER DELTA

OW010450 Hanoi VNA in English 1536 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] Hanoi, 30 Sep (VNA)--Over the past eight years since the liberation of South Korea, Government has invested more than 530 million dong on irrigation of the Mekong River Delta, the biggest rice producer of the country.

To this end, the people in the region have spent 52 million workdays moving 123.6 million cubic metres of earth, 220,000 cubic metres of rock.

Besides, the movement for building small-sized irrigation works has been widely launched to make better use of the manpower resources and give greater efficiency to the large water conservancy projects in the region. In the said period, 34 million workdays have been spent, 76 million cubic metres of earth moved and 4,000 cubic metres of concrete laid for the building of such works.

The newly-built projects have supplied water to 600,000 hectares of cultivated land, drained 390,000 hectares of aluminous ricefields, protected 150,800 hectares against flood and 660,000 hectares against salinity. The small works and mechanical pumps have irrigated almost 600,000 hectares of ricefields. Irrigation and drainage are chiefly responsible for the almost doubling of rice acreage compared with before liberation.

In particular, they have made possible the formation of high-yield rice areas covering 350,000 hectares.

The Ministry of Water Conservancy is cooperating with the interested branches to make basic topographic surveys of the region. The U Minh Forest and the Plain of Reeds areas which have been for centuries submerged by saline water are being transformed into arable lands.

CSO: 4200/69

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

VICE CHAIRMAN SPEAKS AT CONFERENCE--Hanoi, 2 Oct (VNA)--The Second National Conference on Geology was held here from 20 September to 1 October. It was attended and addressed by Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Nguyen Giap. The participants who included many professors, doctors and engineers of geology, submitted to the conference 386 interesting reports on scientific and technical projects. The conference took note of the progress in geological survey and application shown in the reports. Over the three years since the previous conference, Vietnamese geologists have completed a 1/500,000 geological map of Vietnam and a 1/200,000 map of northern Vietnam. The activities of the geological branch have made a considerable contribution to the development of the national economy. The conference selected 27 reports to be submitted to the World Geological Conference scheduled to be held in the Soviet Union in 1984. [Text] [OW021609 Hanoi VNA in English 1539 GMT 2 Oct 83]

CSO: 4200/69

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

PHAM VAN DONG GREETES HANOI WRITERS' CONGRESS

BK041420 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 26 Sep 83

["Full text" of Council of Ministers Chairman Pham Van Dong's greetings to Third Congress of Vietnam Writers' Association; read by Ha Xuan Truong, head of CPV Central Committee Culture, Literature, and Arts Department at Congress' 26 September opening session--read by announcer]

[Text] Dear Comrades:

On behalf of the CPV Central Committee, I cordially extend my warm greetings and feelings to the Third Congress of Vietnamese Writers and the contingent of activists on the literature front. I wish that this time your comrades' congress will make a new step in the development of Vietnamese literature.

The 4,000 years of Vietnamese history show that our nation is a community formed since early times--since time immemorial--and is bound closely together in love for the country and one's own household and on the principle of loving others as oneself. The Vietnamese community has constantly matured in the process of national defense and construction, has reached the pinnacle of great ordeals in history, has developed force and wisdom as a nation, and has achieved many successes which serve as a source of pride for the present and future generations.

A nation's history reflects the value, strength, and tradition of its culture. Our forefathers realized this fact long ago when they asserted that our Vietnamese nation is a civilized nation. Our nation follows the same course as the world's trend; that is, toward achieving social liberation, national liberation, and the liberation of mankind. The linkage among these three revolutions is a vivid fact of today's world. Thus, the meeting between Vietnam and the world is inevitable, stemming from the internal trends of both parties. Nguyen Ai Quoc met Lenin through their thesis about the question of nationalism. This is a very important historic landmark with which the Vietnamese revolution has been linked with the world's revolution. Inherently located at the crossroads of many cultures and long since noted for its sensitivity in acquiring the good and beautiful things of many nations, our nation will certainly keep its door open to welcome all that is the best of mankind.

The growth of the Vietnamese nation since the founding of the party over the past half a century is marked with many victories of historic and epochal significance. Living up to these victories, our people are striving to build socialism and are defending their beloved socialist fatherland. The socialist revolution requires unprecedented great efforts of each and every one of us while creating favorable conditions for the development of each and every person to realize his most beautiful dreams.

Writers, cultural and art workers, and scientific and technical specialists in our country who, endowed with a great source of happiness, have the lofty mandate of fighting for a great cause, a great nation, and great men.

Since the August Revolution, while fighting and defeating the most ferocious aggressors, our people in the north have gradually built their new lives, including a new culture which is a mixture of the traditional national culture and the great thinking of our times.

Our people's victories in the successive wars of resistance against the French colonialists, the U.S. imperialists, and the Chinese expansionists are victories of the judicious lines of our party, victories of our system which holds high the banners of national independence and socialism, victories of people's warfare, and victories of Vietnamese culture in the Ho Chi Minh era.

Identifying with the people, generation after generation of Vietnamese writers has made glorious contributions to the revolution, creating many valuable works imbued with the truth that nothing is more precious than independence and freedom and reflecting our people's heroism.

Our people's great and epic wars of resistance have given rise to a movement for literary and artistic creation among the various strata of our people and armed forces, from which talented writers have emerged. A number of works dealing with our wars of resistance, written in the fire of combat and springing from the hearts and minds of their authors, have been warmly appreciated at home and widely welcomed abroad.

Modern Vietnamese literature, a component of Vietnam's new culture, deserves to stand among the vanguard of antiimperialist literature of our times.

Dear comrades, our people are expanding the socialist revolution both in scope and depth, building the system of collective mastery by the working people, large-scale socialist production, new culture, and new socialist men. This is the most fundamental, and the most comprehensive revolution, which is bringing deep changes in many respects of our social life, of our entire nation, and of each of us.

As stated above, the nature of the Vietnamese people and the whole process of our national history have prepared our people to come to socialism naturally, like water in a river flowing toward the sea, and favorably, like perennial trees blossoming in the sunshine. To our people, socialism is not an unexpected thing but rather an exciting and beautiful encounter occurring as if it were prearranged. Today, the nationwide socialist revolution is a difficult,

hard, and complex enterprise and we have to foresee all these difficulties and complexities. This is because we are advancing directly to socialism, bypassing the period of capitalist development, starting from a poor country in which small production is predominant, in which three decades of continual war have wrecked heavy destruction, and in which the people still have to cope with a feverish multifaceted war of sabotage of the enemy. These difficulties and complexities lie right inside the process of the revolution. Adding to these difficulties and complexities are our errors and shortcomings while at work, notably that corruption arising in our socioeconomic life.

Revolution means struggle, and our people's socialist revolution is a very tough, lasting, and creative struggle carried out in accordance with the policies set forth in various documents of the Fourth Party Congress with the purpose of gradually building a socialist Vietnam with a modern economy, industry, and agriculture; advanced culture and science; strong national defense; and a modern and happy life. With this approach, we are in the initial stage of implementing the most urgent and realistic objectives set forth by the Fifth Party Congress in order to create a foundation for the successive stages.

Revolution is the cause of the masses. The combined strength of the three revolutions, brought into play in the working people's movement for collective mastery under the leadership of the CPV and through the management by the state, is a great driving force of our society. The whole nation and every laboring citizen is really becoming a responsible collective master, regarding public affairs as his own and trying to accomplish his task well to contribute to the common cause. That potential is emerging for the first time in our history with the advent of the socialist revolution. Each among us must realize this fact: Our nation has since time immemorial existed as a community. That is why today the working people of our country readily absorb the ideology of collective mastery.

The system of collective mastery has highly developed the material and spiritual force of the entire nation and of each person in every ward, neighborhood, enterprise, cooperative, district, province, and sector throughout the nation. The socialist revolution of the people at large is closely related to the activities, progress, and ascending momentum of each one. We must always struggle very hard to reduce our difficulties and gradually improve our material life. Meanwhile, we must pay great attention to the cultural life, human virtues, and relations between members in each family and each collective as well as in the entire society. Materially, we may have not had a high living standard; culturally, we must have a healthful, happy, and beautiful life. This has given prominent rise to the great importance of the ideological and cultural revolution--a revolution which directly affects the people's ideology and sentiments and which translates great ideas and sentiments of socialism into a force capable of boosting the three revolutions just as Uncle Ho said: In order to build socialism, there must first be socialist men.

Our people are proving their ability to become collective masters. In every locality, our people are step by step exercising their control over the revolution economically, culturally, and socially in the advance toward mastering

nature, society, and themselves. The socialist revolution has given rise to many outstanding collectives and individuals who are intelligently and creatively surging forward to overcome difficulties in scoring achievements. We would be pleased to see many beautiful flowers of socialism if we had a chance to visit outstanding units in agriculture, industry, the armed forces, culture, education, and public health. Just as no one could fully record all the heroic deeds performed on a certain day of the anti-U.S. struggle, today no one can record all the good deeds of a certain day of the socialist revolution in our country.

To our people, history is a close and loyal companion, and the revolution means fighting constantly and victoriously until final victory. Our country, our nation, is stronger than ever before and is capable of undertaking and fulfilling its new mission of building socialism and defending our homeland. Although there remain numerous difficulties, hardships, and dark spots which we must fully perceive, the overall picture of our people's revolutionary cause is very bright indeed.

In the nature of socialist revolution, revolution and science are one. Revolution is science and vice versa. In all areas and in each job and each person, the right, the good, and the beautiful will meet and mix with one another. Scientific socialism, socialist ethics, and socialist aesthetics are closely related.

Dear comrades, the socialist revolution has reserved a very important role for the literary and artistic front and requires writers to fulfill a great mandate; that is, to reflect in their works the socialist revolution and those people who are socialist collective masters. Only when a writer succeeds in describing the beauty of life and cultivating inner beauty can he or she really become an architect of the soul.

Let me recall Uncle Ho's verses: "Verses nowadays should be made of steel/
Like assault fighters, poets must feel."

At present, writers and poets in our country should be socialist revolutionaries just as they have been fighters in the war of resistance for independence and freedom. With all their perception and sentiments, writers should understand and stick to the socialist cause which is taking place in our everyday life. Let them fully identify themselves with the socialist revolution and live up to it with great inspiration and passion. Let them resolve their own difficulties--those of each individual and of the whole contingent. It is these difficulties which over the past years have weakened their perspectives, causing them at times to stay out of the common enterprise, to fail to stand in their positions, and to be remiss in performing their literary tasks.

At present, our work may be likened to a river, the pure and fresh water of which cannot be covered by the garbage scattered on its banks. Let our writers bathe in that pure and limpid stream and draw therefrom sources of inspiration that may be indefinitely beautiful.

Let our writers, who are revolutionary fighters, delve deeply into socialist life, trying to understand, discover, and create. Let them, with a wide outlook, clearly see light and darkness, the past and future, and Vietnam and the world. In particular let them look into the seeds of the future and at the young buds that will eventually bloom forth and bear fruit.

With the passing of time, and in the current socialist revolution, our writers are in a position to have a deeper, clearer, and more encompassing view of the past wars of resistance and should strive to create greater works, worthy of our people's great fights for independence and freedom, especially the fight against the U.S. imperialists for national salvation.

Through their works, writers should encourage our people to promote mutual love and unity in their struggle and to become brave, heroic, and intelligent fighters who have creative talents in production, in building socialism, and on the national defense front, and who harmoniously associate their ardent patriotism with their noble international socialist feelings. Writers should make every effort to make everyone thoroughly imbued with Marxist thought; the free development of each is the prerequisite for the free development of all.

In their lives as well as in their works, our writers do not have to avoid the dark points; instead, they can and should write with emphasis about them, but with the precise aim of bringing light into bolder relief. By directing their pens at the bad, the wrong, and the backward, they aim precisely at bringing out the right, the good, and the beautiful.

It goes without saying that our writers' creative method is socialist realism. Writers should always proceed from realities of society and man to discover and create. Socialist realism respects and encourages very different styles with a wide range of colors and forms, as diversified as life and the socialist revolution itself.

While applying the method of socialist realism, writers should always bear in mind that they are revolutionary fighters. They should see to it that their works reflect the socialist revolution vividly and imaginatively and severely criticize all erroneous tendencies, especially manifestations of liberalism, individualism, amateurism, exhortation to vulgar and even depraved material gratification, formalism, sketchiness, and artificiality.

Literary theoreticians and critics should cordially collaborate with writers, improve the level of readers, and increase the quality and the principled character of literary works. They should cultivate and encourage good works and talented and promising authors, thus effectively contributing to literary creation and appreciation.

The Vietnam Writers' Association must really become a socialist revolutionary organization, an increasingly large collective which will effectively look after its members' creative works. It must become a large, unified, fraternal, and loving family in which the atmosphere must always reflect the purity and nobleness of literature and give more inspiration to everyone.

Within the ranks of the writers themselves, we must highly treasure the veteran writers who have persistently struggled on the literary front for over half a century now and who are ardently continuing with their creation. At the same time, we must pay special attention to forstering, supporting, and encouraging the young generation of writers who have been tested in the crucible of the fight against the U.S. imperialists and during the past 8 years, and creating every possible condition for their progress because they constitute a very important force full of vigor in our present contingent of writers and in the future literature of our country.

We do not lack gifted men and women among our writers. The achievements scored since the 1945 August revolution prove that our writers are fully capable of creating valuable works and eventually great works commensurate with our people's revolutionary cause.

Dear comrades, present in the current writers congress are representatives of many artistic branches such as music, stage, motion pictures, painting, photography, and architecture. These comrades are also going to hold congresses of their branches. On this occasion, on behalf of the CPV Central Committee, I convey to the men and women members of these artistic associations my warm salutations and regards.

Along with literature, each of the artistic branches, with its own characteristics and strengths, has scored encouraging achievements, making worthy contributions to our people's revolutionary cause, especially their resistance against foreign aggression. Many artistic branches' model achievements have been welcomed within the country and highly appraised in many international artistic exhibitions and receptions.

Through the past revolutionary stages, the force of each artistic branch has constantly matured in terms of creation, research, and directing. In the future, our artists must move forward even more vigorously and comprehensively, correct deviations, vigorously develop their branches, and strive to fulfill their noble duties in the socialist revolution.

In everyday life and in their artistic activities, our artists should achieve harmony between themselves and revolutionary combatants. They should engage in artistic activities with the thought and soul of a socialist revolutionary combatant and perform their duties as a combatant through their artistic works.

All of our artistic branches must make the beauty in the socialist revolutionary cause, in the people's life, and in the Vietnamese man the beauty in their works. They must achieve harmonious coordination among themselves in order to accelerate the three revolutions, especially the ideological and cultural revolution, and build an art with socialist objectives and a national character.

Our people expect, demand, and are ready to welcome literary and artistic works depicting the socialist revolution and the socialist Vietnamese men. Literary and artistic works exert an incomparably profound, vigorous, and

lasting educational and ideological effect on society. We all know that in the history of nations great works have been close and indispensable friends of one generation after another.

Let our writers and artists steadily advance along the path devised by the party and people, work with all their might for the people's cause, and mature in the revolutionary movement. Our large contingent of writers and artists as well as each single writer and artist will mature in their understanding of the socialist revolution, in their ideology and their feelings, in their range of view, and in their talents and styles by mingling with the socialist revolution and the people.

It is certain that the writers and other cultural and art workers of our country, the loved sons and daughters of the people, will reap bumper harvests.

May the Third Congress of Vietnamese Writers be crowned with splendid success!

May the forthcoming congresses of various artistic branches end with splendid success!

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